

# ROYAL SOCIETY, TASMANIA.

APRIL, 1880.

The first monthly evening meeting for the present session was held at the Museum on Tuesday, 13th April, Mr. H. J. Buckland in the chair.

Mr. Edmund P. Wilson, who had previously been nominated by the Council, was balloted for, and declared duly elected a Fellow of the Society.

The Hon. Secretary (Dr. AGNEW) brought forward the usual monthly returns, viz. :—

1. Number of Visitors to Museum, March—On Sundays 921, on week days 883, total 1,804.

2. Ditto to Gardens 5,190.

3. Plants and Seeds received at Gardens :—

From Chamber of Agriculture, Washington, U.S.A., 36 packets seeds. From Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle, Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, 10 packets Palm Seeds. From the Royal Gardens, Kew, two packets seeds. From Mr. C. E. Bethune, Sandy Bay, Queensland Orchids. From the Botanic Gardens, Saharanpur, N.W. India, 9 packets seeds. From Mr. Wm. Bull, London, 59 varieties Bulbs and Tubers, and 24 packets seeds.

4. Plants sent from Gardens :—To Messrs. Veitch and Co., London, 20 tree ferns. To Rev. R. H. Codrington, Norfolk Island, 36 plants. To Mr. J. Harris, South Yarra, one case plants.

5. Presentations to Museum.

6. Books and Periodicals received.

7. Time of leafing, flowering, and fruiting of a few standard plants in the Botanic Gardens during January, February, and March, viz. :—

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| January  | 6  | <i>Veronica angustifolia</i> , in full flower. |
| "        | 7  | Apricots, commencing to ripen.                 |
| "        | 10 | <i>Grevillea robusta</i> , in full flower.     |
| "        | 12 | Jargonelle Pear, commencing to ripen.          |
| "        | 14 | <i>Catalpa syriacæfolia</i> , in flower.       |
| "        | 18 | Black Mulberries, commencing to ripen.         |
| February | 10 | Peaches, commencing to ripen                   |
| "        | 15 | Kerry Pippin Apple, ditto                      |
| "        | 15 | Windsor Pear, ditto                            |
| "        | 16 | Bon Chretien Pear, ditto                       |
| "        | 18 | Greengage Plum, ditto                          |
| "        | 25 | Common Ash, commencing to shed seed            |
| "        | 28 | Sycamore, ditto.                               |
| March    | 12 | Seckle Pear, commencing to ripen               |
| "        | 14 | Tips of Hornbeam, commencing to turn yellow    |
| "        | 16 | Coe's Golden Drop Plum ripe                    |
| "        | 20 | Tips of Elm, turning yellow                    |
| "        | 22 | Horsechestnut, leaves turning brown            |
| "        | 25 | Ash, leaves commencing to fall                 |
| "        | 31 | Oak, leaves ditto.                             |

*Meteorology.*—

1 Hobart Town, from Mr. F. Abbott, table for January.

2. Bruni Island, tables for January and February; Mount Nelson for January, February, and March; from the Marine Board.
3. From Mr. Roblin. Abstract Tables and Results of Meteorological Observations taken at Hobart Town and the various Coast Stations during 1879, compiled from the monthly records.

The presentations to the Museum were as follows :—

1. From Mr. J. W. Rosier, Melbourne. A double-barrelled fowling-piece, formerly the property of Sir John Franklin.
2. From Mr. A. J. Taylor. A sample of Graphite from Port Sorell, with analysis.

[Although a specimen of true Graphite, the analysis shows that the specimen is practically valueless, as it contains only about 14 per cent. of carbon, whereas 60 per cent. at least should be present.]

3. From Mr. H. M. Hall. A deed signed by Governor Macquarie, dated January, 1817 (Grant of 80 Acres of Land at Glenorchy to Edward Barnes).

The following donations to the Library were brought under notice :—

- “Zoologica et Palæontologica Miscellanea.” By Professor R. Tate, Assoc. Lin. Soc., F.G.S. From the author.
- “Lectures on the Vegetable Kingdom.” By the Rev. William Woolls, Ph., F.L.S. From the author.
- “On the Fertilisation of Orchids by Insects.” By Charles Darwin, M.A., F.R.S., etc., etc. From Mr. E. D. Swan.
- “Zoological Exercises for Students in New Zealand.” By Professor F. W. Hutton, Canterbury College, Christchurch, N.Z. From the author.
- “Manual of the Indigenous Grasses of New Zealand.” By John Buchanan, F.L.S. From Dr. James Hector, C.M.G., F.R.S., etc.
- “Prodromus of the Palæontology of Victoria.” By Prof. McCoy, parts 3 to 6; and “Prodromus of the Zoology of Victoria,” by the same author, parts 1 to 4. From the Government of Victoria.

A presentation, consisting of upwards of twenty volumes and pamphlets, from Sir Redmond Barry, on behalf of the Trustees of the Melbourne Public Library, was also laid on the table.

*Papers.*—

1. The Secretary read “A Description of 22 Species of Algæ, from the New Hebrides,” by Dr. W. O. Sonder, of Hamburg, a Corresponding Member of the Society. This paper was communicated by Baron von Mueller.
2. A paper “On some Australian Slugs, chiefly Tasmanian,” by Professor Ralph Tate, F.G.S., Corresponding Member of the Society, etc., was read.
3. “A Contribution to our knowledge of the Unionidæ of the Launceston Tertiary Basin,” by R. Etheridge, jun., F.G.S., a Corresponding Member of the Society, etc., was also read.

These contributions from “Corresponding Members,” all of whom are well known in the scientific world, were received with much interest, and their immediate publication in the Proceedings of the Society was agreed upon.

Conversational discussion on subjects referred to in the above communications having taken place, a vote of thanks was accorded to the authors of the papers, and to the donors of presentations; when the proceedings terminated.